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FLOOR DEBATE

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That was that a...a school system couldn't increase its cash reserves by more than 2 percent in any one year, and with the committee amendment, that provision would be stricken so there would still remain the overall cash reserve limit for schools, but the year-to-year change limit would be removed, and I would yield time to Senator Beutler if you would like to talk more about the...the bill and its purpose.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Beutler, you have approximately eight minutes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Kristensen, members of the Legislature, the purpose of the bill is simply to give the financial planners for the school districts an additional measure of flexibility by allowing them to replenish, essentially, a reserve fund faster than they otherwise could. There will be instances where state aid is suddenly and unexpectedly lower or there might be other problems that could suddenly come up. And it is helpful to them to be able to replenish their reserve funds faster than that basic 2 percent limitation would allow them to do. We want to be clear that the changes that we're making do not allow for any additional levy. The changes that we are making do not allow any additional budget authority. The changes that we're making...I guess those are the...are the two important things. They are...it is designed to be a planning tool to help them deal with cash flow in a more effective way, and, basically, Senator Raikes has correctly described what it...what it does. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Debate on the committee amendments. Mr. Clerk, an amendment to the committee amendment.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Beutler would move to amend the committee amendments, AM2312. (Legislative Journal page 386.)

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Beutler, you're recognized to open on that amendment.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Members of the Legislature, this amendment was brought to me by the Lincoln School District, and, by the way, I...I want to thank very much Senator Price for prioritizing